

Message Text

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73

ACTION SS-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 L-03 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /083 W

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R 241525Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4072

INFO SECDEF

USMISSION NATO

CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 1262

FOR UNDERSECRETARY PORTER FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR IC NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 208576

1. FONMIN AGUSTSSON WILL ADVISE ME BEFORE WEEKEND THE DATE OR DATES DURING NOV 12 WEEK HE PREFERS FOR SECOND ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

2. RE BARRINGER I CASUALLY MENTIONED THAT UNLESS FONMIN HAD OTHER THOUGHTS WE PROBABLY WILL HAVE SAME FOUR PEOPLE IN ROOM AS WAS PRESENT DURING FIRST ROUND AND GAVE HIM THEIR NAMES TO REFRESH HIS MEMORY. I ADDED I THOUGHT IT GOOD IDEA TO HAVE SAME PEOPLE FOR SAKE OF CONTINUITY AND PROGRESS. HE MADE NO COMMENT BUT IF HE HAS ANY DIFFICULTY WITH THIS I AM SURE HE WILL MENTION IT WHEN HE GIVES ME ANSWER ON DATES. I PERSONALLY BELIEVE THERE WILL NOT (RPT NOT) BE ANY PROBLEM SINCE BARRINGER IS NOT AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL AND THEREFORE NOT AN APPROPRIATE TRADE-OFF FOR MINISTERS KJARTANSSON AND TORFI OLAFSSON.

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3. REGARDING PRESENCE OF THESE TWO MINISTERS I WAS TOLD BY

MINISTER BJORN JONSSON DURING AN INFORMAL CHAT EARLIER THIS WEEK THAT THEIR PRESENCE WILL BE DECIDED BY CABINET BUT THAT HE STILL FEELS SAME AS PREVIOUSLY WHEN HE BLOCKED PROPOSAL FOR A THREE-PARTY GOI NEGOTIATING TEAM. HE REMARKED HE THOUGHT FONMIN HANDLED HIMSELF QUITE WELL IN WASHINGTON WITHOUT THE HELP OF OTHER MINISTERS, "ALTHOUGH AGUSTSSON WAS PROBABLY TOUGHER THAN CIRCUMSTANCES CALLED FOR." HE ALSO COMMENTED IN A TONE TO CONVEY THAT AGUSTSSON CAN INDEED ACCOMPLISH THINGS THAT HE UNDERSTOOD AGUSTSSON DEMANDED AND RECEIVED CONCESSION FROM US TO REMOVE MARINE GUARD AT KEFLAVIK MAIN GATE. HE CONSIDERS THIS CONCESSION MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL AND HELPFUL TOWARD CREATION OF GOOD ATMOSPHERE IN UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS. IRVING

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